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A NEW SPECIES OF TREMATODE FROM THE MUD-EEL (SIREN LACERTINA)

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AN EXAMINATION of material scraped from the intestinal mucosa of the mud-eel (*Siren lacertina* Linnaeus) disclosed the presence of a minute trematode, herein described as a new species of the genus *Cercorchis* Lühe, 1900.

The confusion of the genera *Cercorchis* and *Telorchis* Looss, 1899, appears to have been settled by Perkins (1928), who raised *Cercorchis* to full generic rank. Harwood (1932) accepts this distinction and points out the necessity of transferring all North American species of the genus *Telorchis* to *Cercorchis*. Stunkard (1916) described *T. corti*, *T. lobosus*, *T. medius*, and *T. diminutus*; MacCallum (1918) *T. insculpti*, *T. pallidus*, *T. chelopi*, and *T. guttati* from turtles; Chandler (1923) *T. stunkardi* from *Amphiuma means*; Perkins (1928) *C. necturi* from *Necturus maculosus*; Ingles (1930) *T. stenonura* from *Clemmys marmorata*; Mehra and Bokhari (1931) *C. dhongokii* from the tortoise *Kachuga ahongoka* of India; Harwood (1932) *C. texanus* and *C. bairdi* from reptiles; Bennett (1935) *C. singularis* from two genera of turtles (with a discussion of the genera as defined by Perkins); and Byrd (1936) *C. kinosterni* from the mud turtle. No claim of completeness is vouched for in the list given. The relationship that exists between *Siren* and *Amphiuma*, including also the proximity of habitat of these and the mud turtle *Kinosternon*, does not necessarily mean that the

species of *Cercorchis* inhabiting them are the same. From the standpoint of morphology the species from *Siren lacertina* differs considerably from the numerous drawings and descriptions of the species studied.

Family TELORCHIIDAE Stunkard, 1924

Subfamily TELORCHIINAE Looss, 1899

Genus CERCORCHIS Lühe, 1900

CERCORCHIS SIRENIS, new species

PLATE 11

Specific diagnosis.—The mature worms available for study have a length of 0.78 to 1.56 mm and a width of 0.19 to 0.31 mm at the anterior edge of the acetabulum. In thickness they measure about 0.11 to 0.14 mm near the acetabulum. Spination is marked at the anterior end. The ends in the fixed specimens taper somewhat and are slightly flattened or rounded. The oral sucker is 0.11 by 0.09 to 0.13 by 0.11 mm in diameter. The prepharynx is approximately 0.01 mm in length. The pharynx is somewhat oblong and is 0.03 by 0.04 to 0.04 by 0.04 mm. The esophagus is 0.02 to 0.03 mm in length. The intestinal caeca end very little cephalad or caudad of the posterior testis. The acetabulum is 0.10 mm in diameter if circular, or 0.12 by 0.11 to 0.12 by 0.09 mm in diameter if somewhat elliptical in outline. The spherical ovary is about 0.06 mm in diameter and is located slightly anterior of the middle of the organism or central in position. The vitellaria are arranged in follicles and extend from the posterior border of the acetabulum to the anterior border of the anterior testis. The posterior part of the vagina, or metraterm, runs ventral to the cirrus sac, the latter crossing over the former. The cirrus sac, including the seminal vesicle and prostate parts, extends in waves from the posterior dorsal border or middle of the ovary to the genital pore, into which it opens jointly with the vagina. The large genital pore is located at the anterior left border of the acetabulum. The ova in a collapsed condition are 13μ by 39.6μ and in the more normal shape 19.8μ by 36.3μ to 16.5μ by 42.3μ . The testes, which are not uniformly spherical, are located near the caudal end and the posterior one is slightly larger than the anterior. The anterior testis measures 0.04 by 0.07 to 0.8 by 0.11 mm and the posterior 0.06 by 0.10 mm.

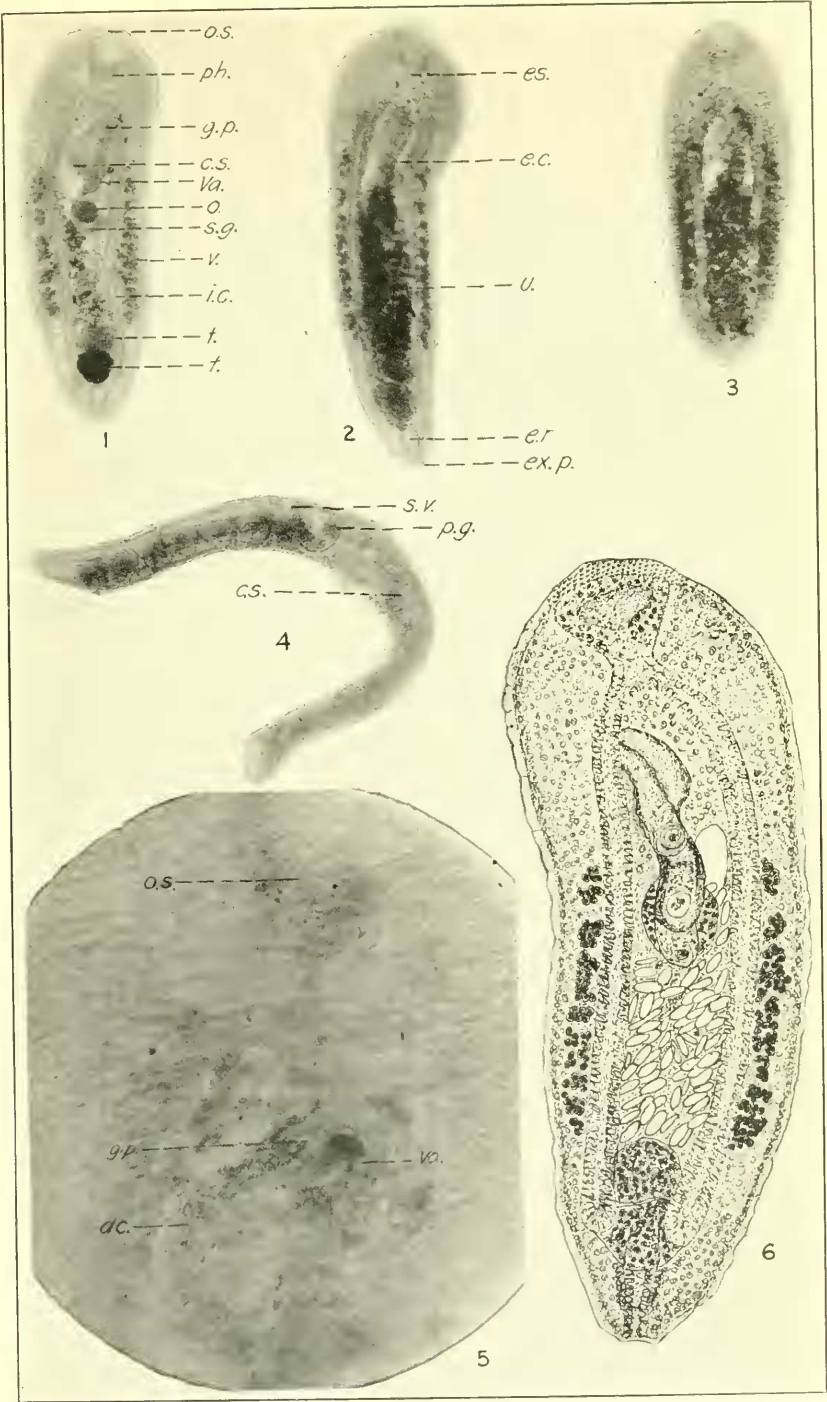
Host.—*Siren lacertina* Linnaeus.

Habitat.—Intestine.

Locality.—Southeastern United States.

Type specimens.—U.S.N.M. Helm. Coll. no. 9021.

Remarks.—Fixation may result in a slight change in the size or contour of the organs as it does in the contour of the body. An



CERCORCHIS SIRENIS, NEW SPECIES.

FOR EXPLANATION OF PLATE SEE BOTTOM OF PAGE 226

